

Select Committee on Parks Funding January 27, 2014



Seattle Parks and Recreation manages a 6,200-acre park system of 465 parks and extensive natural areas. The system comprises about 11% of the City's land area, and includes fields, tennis courts, play areas, specialty gardens, more than 25 miles of boulevards, and 120 miles of trails.

Parks also manages many facilities, including 26 community centers, eight indoor swimming pools, two outdoor (summer) swimming pools, four environmental education centers, two small craft centers, four golf courses, an outdoor stadium, and much more.

◀ Denny Park,
1904

Background

Parks' current
levy expires at
the end of 2014

The Parks and Green
Spaces Levy generated
approximately \$24 million
annually for capital projects.

This levy did not provide
funding for operations and
maintenance, and when it
expires, there will be no
dedicated source of capital
funds for park development,
major maintenance, or
acquisition.



Background



Citizens' Committee Created

City Council created the Parks Legacy Citizens' Advisory Committee by resolution and directed it to evaluate a new ballot measure for Parks.

The PLCAC's prioritization of programs and projects indicates its focus is on fixing, maintaining, and operating what we have, as opposed to providing new facilities. They've recommended 20 initiatives to stabilize, preserve, and grow Seattle's park legacy.

Challenges

Seattle's parks and facilities face major challenges

Parks and facilities face a \$267 million major maintenance backlog, community centers aren't staffed to meet demand, and routine maintenance isn't up to the standards of Seattle.



Challenges



Programs need
to adapt to
changing
demographics



Challenges

Population growth and increased density put pressure on the parks system



The legacy citizens' committee acknowledged public expectation for continued expansion of the parks system. Parks owns 14 land-banked properties throughout the city that need funding to become neighborhood gems.



Public Outreach

Outreach process included:

Use and opinion survey

- 3,457 respondents
- September-October, 2012

First round of public meetings

- 300 people signed in
- May 2013

Parks Legacy Citizens' Advisory Committee (PLCAC) meetings and public hearing

- 740 respondents
- June-November 2013

Second round of public meetings

- In progress
- January 2014

Race and Social Justice

Survey - translated into nine languages

- Administered through DON's Public Outreach and Engagement Liaisons (POELs)
- 115 historically underrepresented communities (HUC) responses
- 107 teen responses

First and second round public meetings

- Fliers translated into 9 languages
- Press release sent to City's minority media list
- Held meeting dedicated to HUC
- Translators at meetings
- Food, childcare, and transportation assistance

PLCAC Meetings and Public Hearing

- Fliers translated into 9 languages
- Parks' Change Team conducted outreach to 16 groups in "backyard" meetings, briefed the PLCAC, and submitted recommendations

Key Policy Issues

Composition of package

What is the right balance between maintenance, operations, programming, and new development?

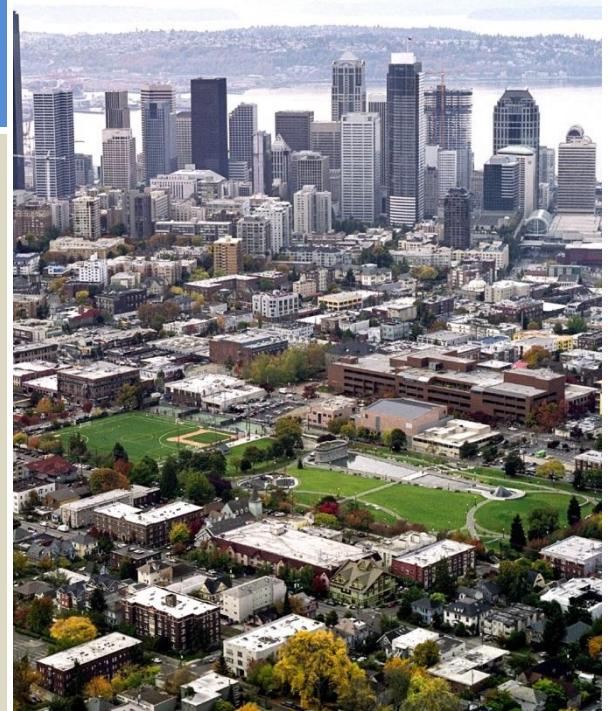


Key Policy Issues



Size of ballot measure package

Should the measure raise sufficient revenue to tackle a wide range of parks' long-term needs or should it be renewed at the current level?



Key Policy Issues



Funding mechanism

Is a levy or establishing an MPD the preferred method for providing funding for Parks?

Decisions and Timeline

Parks Legacy Citizens' Advisory Committee (PLCAC)

Public meetings

Public meetings will be held on January 23, 25, and 30.

PLCAC meetings

- February 20
- February 27
- March 6

Final Report

The PLCAC final report is due March 12.

Select Council Parks Funding Committee

March 18

Mayor sends proposed legislation to Council

Meetings of Select Committee

- March 17
- March 31
- April 7: Public Hearing
- April 14
- April 28

May 5

Council action to place measure on ballot.

Supporting Materials

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Seattle Parks and Recreation

Parks Legacy Citizens' Advisory Committee
Interim Report
January 2014



Parks Legacy Plan
Access, Opportunity, and Sustainability



Interim Report of the Parks
Legacy Citizens' Advisory
Committee

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Investment Initiative Background Documents

This document contains supporting information for the investment initiatives chosen and prioritized by the Parks Legacy Citizens' Advisory Committee. Attached at the end of the document is a reference list of changes to titles and tracking numbers.



#	Investment Initiative	Program Category	Annual Costs (\$)	Cumulative Total Cost (\$)	Page
1	Core Investments in Parks and Recreation				1
a.	Fund Major Maintenance Backlog and Property Management	Fix It First	\$19,965		2
b.	Restore Community Center Operations	Programs for People	\$2,600	\$26,263	4
c.	Increase Preventive Maintenance	Maintaining Parks and Facilities	\$1,448		7
d.	Provide Clean, Safe, Welcoming Parks	Maintaining Parks and Facilities	\$2,250		8
2	Healthy, Active, and Engaged				10
a.	Recreation Opportunities for All (\$400)	Programs for People	\$1,239	\$27,502	12
b.	Better Programs for Young People—Seattle's Future (\$504)				13
c.	Meeting the Needs of People with Disabilities (\$80)				14
d.	More Programs for Older Adults (\$135)				15
3	Park Land Acquisition and Leverage Fund	Building for the Future	\$3,000	\$30,502	15
4	Aquarium Major Maintenance	Fix It First	\$1,200	\$31,702	16
5	Zoo Major Maintenance	Fix It First	\$2,000	\$33,702	17
6	Major Projects Challenge Fund	Building for the Future	\$5,000	\$38,702	18
7	Saving Our City Forests	Maintaining Parks and Facilities	\$100	\$38,802	19
8	Maintain Seattle's New Waterfront Park	Building for the Future	\$3,187	\$41,989	20
9	Emergence Urban Center and Neighborhood Parks				21
a.	Activate New Seattle Waterfront Park (\$113)	Building for the Future			22
b.	Activate Urban Center Parks (\$250)	Maintaining Parks and Facilities			23
c.	Put the Arts in Parks (\$340)	Programs for People	\$1,753	\$44,602	24
d.	Make Parks Safer (\$500)	Maintaining Parks and Facilities			25
e.	Rejuvenate Our P-Patches (\$200)	Building for the Future			26
f.	Improve Dog Off-leash Areas (\$100)	Programs for People			27
10	Develop and Maintain 15 New Parks				28
a.	Develop and Maintain Smith Cove Park (\$987)	Building for the Future	\$2,297	\$46,899	29
b.	Maintain 14 New Parks at Land-Banked Sites (\$1,400)				30
11	Community Response Fund	Building for the Future	\$600	\$47,499	31
12	Activating and Connecting to Greenways	Building for the Future	\$320	\$47,819	32
13	Get Moving Fund	Programs for People	\$1,200	\$49,019	33
14	Neighborhood Park Enhancements	Building for the Future	\$500	\$49,519	34
15	Customer Service and Technology	Programs for People	\$500	\$50,019	35
16	Expand Environmental Learning Partnerships	Programs for People	\$220	\$50,239	36
17	Environmental Sustainability Fund	Fix It First	\$1,500	\$51,739	37
18	Management Plans for Regional and Center City Parks	Fix It First	\$240	\$51,979	38
19	New Outdoor Pool for South Seattle	Building for the Future	\$1,162	\$53,141	39
20	Albion Field Turf Maintenance	Maintaining Parks and Facilities	\$200	\$53,341	40

January 2014

Seattle Parks and Recreation

Investment Initiative
Background Materials

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LOVE YOUR PARKS? We Need to Hear From You Now!



PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Parks Legacy Citizens' Advisory Committee is developing a package for a future ballot measure to pay for parks and recreation projects, ongoing maintenance and operations, and recreation programs. It's also looking at different ways to fund these investments.

Add your voice to this future ballot measure. Join your fellow community members and tell the Committee what you think. The Committee is looking for feedback on their recommendations in these specific areas:

- PRIORITIES**—did the Committee find the right balance between taking care of what we have, programming, and new development?
- SIZE**—learn how different levels of funding affect your taxes, and then tell us what you think the right size is!
- FUNDING MECHANISM**—learn about the differences between short-term, long-term, and permanent levies, and how these compare to the formation of a metropolitan parks district (MPD). Then, tell us which mechanism you think is most appropriate for Seattle, and any thoughts or concerns you have about it.

We'd love to hear from you at any of the following meetings. Tell us what is most important to you!

Thursday, January 23 • 6 p.m.
INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT/
CHINATOWN COMMUNITY CENTER
719 8th Ave. S., Seattle, WA 98104

Saturday, January 25 • 1 p.m.
(child care provided)
HIGH POINT COMMUNITY CENTER
6920 34th Ave. SW, Seattle, WA 98126

Thursday, January 30 • 7 p.m.
BITTER LAKE COMMUNITY CENTER
13035 Linden Ave. N., Seattle, WA 98133

TO LEARN MORE, READ THE LEGACY COMMITTEE'S INTERIM REPORT.

The Interim Report details the Committee's process, rationale, and interim recommendations—but they need your input before they finalize those recommendations! Detailed information about each proposed investment and possible funding mechanisms is also available on the Parks Legacy Citizens' Advisory Committee website www.seattle.gov/parks/legacycommittee, and available in hard copy at community centers and at the meetings.

For interpretation services or special accommodations at the meeting, please email parkslegacy@seattle.gov or call Suzanne Rackwell (206-733-8782). For translation of this flyer, please visit our website at www.seattle.gov/parks/legacycommittee.

If you can't make it to a meeting, your thoughts and comments about the Committee's work are welcome at parkslegacy@seattle.gov.



Parks Legacy Plan
Access, Opportunity, and Sustainability



Public Meeting Flyer -
Citizens' Advisory
Committee January Public
Meetings